



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

June 23, 2016

The Honorable Al Franken
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Franken:

Thank you for your June 3, 2016, letter to Attorney General Loretta E. Lynch and Secretary of Education John B. King, Jr., regarding the Dear Colleague Letter jointly issued by the Department of Justice and the Department of Education on May 13, 2016, pertaining to the rights of transgender students under Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX). We are responding on behalf of Attorney General Lynch and Secretary King, and are sending an identical response to the cosigners of your letter.

The Departments work hard to ensure all students have equal access to educational programs and activities. We issued the guidance in response to an increasing number of questions from parents, teachers, principals, school superintendents, colleges, and universities about protections for transgender students under Title IX and its implementing regulations. In addition, the Department of Education's Office of Elementary and Secondary Education released a compilation of examples from policies that schools across the country are already using to support transgender students. We hope these resources will help students and parents understand their rights under Title IX and help schools understand their Title IX obligations to protect transgender students from discrimination.

Thank you for your input as we continue to ensure that all students have equal access to educational opportunities. If you have further questions, please contact us.

Sincerely,

Lloyd Horwich
Acting Assistant Secretary
for Legislation and Congressional Affairs
U.S. Department of Education

Peter J. Kadzik
Assistant Attorney General
for Legislative Affairs
U.S. Department of Justice